

[A Woman's Viewpoint]

Beliefs & customs - Folk Stuff

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FOLKLORE

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NEW YORK Forms to be Filled out for Each Interview

FORM A Circumstances of Interview

STATE New York

NAME OF WORKER Terry Roth ———— Sam Schwartz 47 W. 69th St. 2800 Bronx Park East

ADDRESS N. Y. Bronx, N. Y.

DATE April 27, 1939

SUBJECT A Woman's Viewpoint

1. Date and time of interview

April 25 - April 26

2. Place of interview

Greek Fur Local

3. Name and address of informant

Anonymous

4. Name and address of person, if any, who put you in touch with informant.

5. Name and address of person, if any, accompanying you

Sam Schwartz

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6. Description of room, house, surroundings, etc.

FOLKLORE

NEW YORK

FORM C Text of Interview (Unedited)

STATE New York

NAME OF WORKER Terry Roth —— Sam Schwartz 47 W. 69th St. 2800 Bronx Park East

ADDRESS N. Y. Bronx, N. Y.

DATE April 27, 1939

SUBJECT A Woman's Viewpoint A Woman's Viewpoint

"I was working about two months before on a contractor's job, make ten dollar a week. I remember the boss doesn't want me to learn the trade because I will ask for a little more money. They elect me on woman's committee where are about twenty six womans. Was about seventeen weeks strike. We use to call womans to go on picket line, they use to be afraid to go. It was very hard to get them. They think it wasn't for good people. The people use to make ten, fifteen dollar a week before the strike. When the strike was over, they use to get fifty. They don't believe they make so much money. So they ask bosses. "Maybe you make mistake in my wages?"

"In 1926 I get a different job, of course. I was twenty four years old that time. The boss tells me he will give me good money and once in a while to go out with him. If I want a steady

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job, of course I have to go out with him. One day the salesman came up there. He starts to tell me I'm a nice looking girl. He hug me around and of course I have to slap him. After all I know my place and I know how to act. I was thinking the job is nothing to me. I have to leave the place on account of the salesman and the boss.

So I went to a place to work. Of course I can't speak English as now. The boss come down and instead to examine the coat, he examine me. "Listen, 2 you, are you married?" Of course I was married. I figure to tell him I have children. I thought he respect me. "Yes, sure, I have five children." So he almost dropped dead. "Five? Really you have five children?" "Sure. Three boys and two girls." So the next day when I sit there at the table to work a salesman of trimmings he came there. "You be nice to me, yes?" So the boss comes running over to me. "You leave that woman alone. She has five children."

"When I start in 1922 I was working for three weeks without getting paid. My uncle said, "why you bring no money. If you don't get paid you can't work. After all, you have to pay for your board." So in the morning, it was Monday, everybody is getting paid. I go over to the boss. "What's the matter with me? Why don't you pay me." "But you still learning the trade." "I'm producing you linings." "Alright. You work another week, then we start to pay you eight dollars a week." "Just now I'm stopping work to go down and call the police." "What you mean. I'm teaching you to work and that's the thanks I'm getting." "Mr. Boss, I have to live. I can't go home. My uncle is going to give me beating. You pay me right now." So he give me eight dollars. A couple weeks later I get another job and I leave.